

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02134 260104Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----120113 260105Z /73

O 260104Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1587
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02134

EXDIS

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY; FOR AMBASSADOR MCHENRY

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA; PAPER FOR KAUNDA

REF: (A) USUN 2089, (B) STATE 132684

1. CONTACT GROUP AGREED MAY 25 ON FOLLOWING CHANGES IN
TEXT OF PAPER FOR ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA (REF A):

(A) REARRANGE THE ORDER IN WHICH THE FIVE ISSUES ARE
PRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

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PAGE 02 USUN N 02134 260104Z

- (1) RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE
AND THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL
- (2) SIZE OF THE PROPOSED UN PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA
- (3) LOCATION OF TROOPS
- (4) POLICE
- (5) WALVIS BAY

(B) IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF B, ADD TO FINAL SENTENCE OF RESPONSE ON WALVIS BAY THE FOLLOWING WORDS: "...IN THE CONTEXT OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL AS A WHOLE". SENTENCE NOW READS: "THE FIVE ARE, THEREFORE, PREPARED TO COMMIT THEMSELVES FIRMLY TO THIS COURSE OF ACTION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, EITHER THROUGH A DECLARATION OR THROUGH SUPPORT OF A RESOLUTION TO THE SAME EFFECT, IN THE CONTEXT OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL AS A WHOLE."

COMMENT: DESPITE PARIS' RELUCTANT WILLINGNESS (SEPTTEL) TO ACCEPT THE CONCEPT OF A RESOLUTION (AS OPPOSED TO A JOINT DECLARATION), IT WAS AGREED THAT BOTH OPTIONS SHOULD REMAIN IN THE ABOVE SENTENCE. EVERYONE ASSUMES, OF COURSE, THAT IF GIVEN THE CHOICE BETWEEN A RESOLUTION AND A DECLARATION, THE FRONTLINE AND SWAPO WOULD CHOOSE THE FORMER. BRITISH INSTRUCTIONS TENDED TOWARD WITHHOLDING MENTION OF A RESOLUTION, FAVORING THE INITIAL OFFER ONLY OF A DECLARATION FOR "TACTICAL" REASONS, BUT THEY WERE PERSUADED THAT FORTHCOMING IMPRESSION OF AGREED FORMULATION IS BETTER. END COMMENT.

(C) IN THE SECTION ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL, DELETE THE THIRD SENTENCE OF THE RESPONSE WHICH READS: "THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 USUN N 02134 260104Z

AMOUNTS IN PRACTICE TO A VETO".

COMMENT: LONDON -- AND REPORTEDLY OWEN SPECIFICALLY -- OBJECTED TO THIS SENTENCE, ARGUING THAT : (1) THE PAPER IS LIKELY TO GET OUT AND THE SENTENCE, WHICH FOR THE FIRST TIME IN WRITING MAKES A FLAT STATEMENT ON THE VETO IMPLICATIONS OF THE AG/SR RELATIONSHIP, COULD FURTHER ANTAGONIZE THE SOUTH AFRICANS; (2) THE SENTENCE IS UNNECESSARY BECAUSE IT IS REPEATED IN SUBSTANCE IN THE SUBSEQUENT SENTENCE, WHICH READS; "THUS THERE IS NO SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SWAPO'S INSISTENCE ON VETO POWER AND THE PROPOSAL." WE NOTED THAT THE PAPER WOULD NOT BE ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE FIVE AND ARGUED THAT THE SENTENCE SHOULD BE RETAINED; THAT IT CONTAINS THE MAJOR POINT ON THIS ISSUE; AND THAT THE POINT NEEDS TO BE UNDERLINED THROUGH REPETITION. THE GERMANS SUPPORTED US, BUT THE CANADIANS JOINED THE BRITISH STATING THAT SINCE THE SENTENCES ARE REPETITIOUS, THE DELETION WILL NOT MATTER. WITH FRENCH SITTING QUIETLY ON THE SIDELINES AND THE BRITISH REITERATING THAT THEY WERE ACTING ON OWEN'S PERSONAL INSTRUCTIONS, WE AGREED IN THE INTEREST OF TIME TO CONCEDE THE POINT. END COMMENT.

2. THE BRITISH SUGGESTED SEVERAL OTHER CHANGES TO THE TEXT, BUT THEY WERE ALL REJECTED. GROUP CONCLUDED BY AGREEING THAT ONCE APPROVAL OF THESE CHANGES HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM CAPITALS, AMEMBASSY LUSAKA COULD PROCEED ON BEHALF OF FIVE TO PASS PAPER ON PLAIN WHITE BOND TO KAUNDA. PAPER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY ATTRIBUTION TO THE FIVE. YOUNG

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